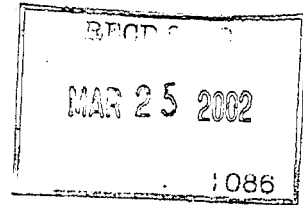




SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20549



Form 6-K

**REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO
RULE 13A-16 OR 15D-16 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE
ACT OF 1934**

For the month of March 2002

P.E.
3-1-02

(Commission File No. 1-14668)

Energy Company of Paraná
(Translation of registrant's name in English)

**Rua Coronel Dulcidio, 800
80420-170 Curitiba, Paraná
Federative Republic of Brazil
(5541) 322-3535**
(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

PROCESSED
APR 01 2002
THOMSON
FINANCIAL P

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file
annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.)

Form 20-F ☒ Form 40-F

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by
furnishing the information contained in this form
is also thereby furnishing the information to the
Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934.)

Yes ☐ No ☒

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

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COPEL**

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CUSTOMERS RATE COPEL BEST COMPANY IN SECTOR

March 21, 2002 – Curitiba, Parana, Brazil –For the second consecutive year, COMPANHIA PARANAENSE DE ENERGIA – COPEL [NYSE: ELP], has been chosen as the best company in the Brazilian electricity sector for 2001, in terms of customer satisfaction, according to residential customers. The ranking was based on a nationwide survey carried out by the regulatory body ANEEL (National Electric Energy Agency).

The Paraná-based concessionary received a score of 70.95 points out of 100 on ANEEL's Customer Satisfaction Index. This mark was well above the average score of 63.22, recorded by the 64 energy distributors in Brazil. In the United States, using a similar index, the average score for utility companies is 69, and in Europe, 70.

Aneel surveyed 19,200 residential customers throughout the country, an average of 300 per distributor.

Companhia Paranaense de Energia - Copel is one of Brazil's largest electric utilities. With over 2.9 million customers, COPEL generates, transmits, transforms and distributes electric power to the entire Brazilian State of Paraná. The company's major customers are industrial, residential and rural electricity consumers. COPEL generates electricity through the operation of seventeen hydroelectric plants and one thermoelectric plant.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

COMPANHIA PARANAENSE DE ENERGIA - COPEL

Date: March 25, 2002

By

Name: Ricardo Portugal Alves

Title: Principal Financial Officer

